

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 16 and 17 are hereby withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention. Please cancel claims 16 and 17 without prejudice. Below is a recitation of the claims and their current status.

- Q1
1. (Original) A soil sampler liner comprising:
a liner member, said liner member defined by a continuous wall and having one or more reduced areas extending along at least a portion of the length of said member, said wall at said one or more reduced areas having a first thickness, said wall adjacent said one or more reduced areas having a second thickness, said second thickness being greater than said first thickness.
 2. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said liner member is substantially transparent.
 3. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said liner member is plastic.
 4. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said first thickness is approximately 0.02 inches.
 5. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said second thickness is approximately 0.05 inches.
 6. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein the width of said one or more reduced areas is approximately 0.2 inches.
 7. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein the ratio of said first thickness to said second thickness is approximately 0.4.

8. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said one or more reduced areas extend along the entire length of said liner member.

9. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said liner member has two of said reduced areas.

10. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said liner member has four of said reduced areas.

11. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 1, wherein said liner member is tubular.

12. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 11, said wall defining a generally figure-eight shape when said member is radially compressed.

13. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 11, wherein the inner diameter of said liner member is approximately 2.5 inches.

14. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 11, wherein the outer diameter of said liner member is approximately 2.6 inches.

15. (Original) The soil sampler liner of claim 11, wherein the outer diameter of said liner member is constant at all points along the periphery of said liner member.

16. (Cancelled) ~~A method for obtaining a soil sample comprising:~~

~~inserting a liner member into a sampler probe, said liner member defined~~

~~by a continuous wall and having one or more reduced areas extending along at least a~~

~~portion of the length of said liner member, said wall at said one or more reduced~~

~~areas having a first thickness, said wall adjacent said one or more reduced areas~~

~~having a second thickness, said second thickness being greater than said first~~

~~thickness;~~

~~inserting into soil said sampler probe and said liner member, whereby a soil sample is~~

~~contained within said liner member;~~

~~withdrawing said sampler probe, said liner member, and said soil sample from said soil;~~

~~removing said liner member and said soil sample from said probe rod;~~

~~cutting through said wall at said one or more reduced areas along at least a portion of the~~

~~length of said liner member;~~

~~spreading said liner member to expose said soil sample; and~~

~~removing said soil sample from said liner member.~~

17. (Cancelled) ~~A method of packaging soil sampler liners comprising:~~

~~radially compressing a plurality of soil sampler liner members, each of said liner members defined by a continuous wall and having one or more reduced areas extending along~~

~~at least a portion of the length of said member, said wall at said one or more reduced~~

~~areas having a first thickness, said wall adjacent said one or more reduced areas~~

~~having a second thickness, said second thickness being greater than said first~~

~~thickness, whereby said wall defines a compact shape when said liner member has~~

~~been radially compressed;~~

~~inserting said plurality of said liner members into a container for transport.~~
